## June 12, 1979

## memorandum

ATTN OF:

Assistant Refuge Supervisor, Jackson Mississippi

SUBJECT:

Alligator Relocation

ТО:

Refuge Managers-Sabine and Lacassine NWRs

The first alligator relocation attempt of 1979 by Service personnel will commence on Monday, June 18, 1979. Alligators will be caught at both Sabine and Lacassine NWRs for relocation to Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, and other parts of Louisiana. Personnel selected for this exercise are expected to be at the Sabine headquarters by 6 P.M. on the 18th. This applys to everyone except the group from Eufaula who will work at Lacassine NWR.

Personnel and their equipment selected are as follows:

Station	Personnel	Boat and Motor	Vehicle
D'Arbonne Felsenthal Catahoula Eufaula Hillside Baton Rouge Asheville A.O.	(2) Barnes, Browning (2) King, Tuggle (1) Fenzel (3) Ivey, Lloyd, Williams (2) Chandler, Bell (1) Abraham (4) Parker, Hartke, & 2 o	1	Stake Stake Pick-up Stake Pick-up Car Rental Vehicle

Each person bringing a boat should also bring needle-nose pliers, screw driver, and shear pins if appropriate.

Lodging arrangements are incomplete at this time. We had originally hoped to stay at Rockerfeller Refuge but there is a conflict with a striped bass program on the refuge so some personnel will stay in Hackberry at the Island Motel. We will contact you later regarding lodging arrangements.

The first shipment of gaters will leave Rockerfeller Refuge, if everything goes according to schedule, on Wednesday evening (June 20th) for Felsenthal NWR. This shipment consisting of 200-300 gaters will be for distribution in Arkansas. The State has requested 200 alligators and the rest will be placed on Felsenthal NWR. If we have obtained the necessary 200 gaters for Arkansas the next group (approximately 100+) will leave for Alabama as soon as they are available. The D'Arbonne crew will return home on Thursday or Friday evening depending on our success with up to 200 gaters. Hillside will return on this same schedule with up to 100 gaters. We will be looking at a total relocation figure of 400-600 gaters depending on our success rate.



I've asked John Walther and George Chandler to coordinate the group who will be working on Sabine. Bobby Brown will work his crew, including Eufaula personnel, the first two nights on Lacassine NWR and will then advise Sabine of the number they have caught. If necessary they can bring the airboat to Sabine. We will utilize the holding pens at Rockerfeller Refuge.

All gater catchers who have an interest will be given a tour of the Rockerfeller Refuge facility. This tour will probably take place on Wednesday when we will have to move gaters from the holding pens to the truck. It should be of interest to all.

Your assistance in this matter is appreciated and I look forward to working with you.

Ray aycock

cc: D'Arbonne NWR
Felsenthal NWR
Catahoula NWR
Eufaula NWR
Hillside NWR
Wildlife Enhancement Biologist
Asheville Area Office